

FOR FELIXSTOWE

The newsletter of Felixstowe Town Council



TOWN TALK

- **Weddings at the Town Hall** - Felixstowe Town Council is delighted that it has now received its license for marriages and civil partnerships. The Town Hall is a wonderful venue and means that Felixstowe people can be married in their own town overlooking the sea. We are now open for business and we have already received bookings for 2010. If you are interested in holding your marriage or civil ceremony at the Town Hall we would love to hear from you and would be happy to show you around the facilities we have available. We also have a special offer on prices for room hire for ceremonies and receptions booked within the next six months. For more details please contact Celia Page on 01394 282086 or email celia.page@felixstowe.gov.uk
- **Honour for member of Town Council** – Councillor Doreen Savage was awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. Doreen has a proud record of achievement as a three times Mayor of Felixstowe, Chairman of Suffolk Coastal District Council and currently a portfolio holder at the District Council. Her community activities are too many to list and her contribution to Felixstowe is quite outstanding. The Town Council is very proud to have Doreen as a member and we congratulate her on this wonderful achievement.
- **Cardiac Care in Felixstowe** – The Town Council has been very active in the vital debate about the provision of cardiac care for Felixstowe patients. The Council urged Suffolk Health, the Strategic Health Authority and Professor Boyle to ensure that people from Felixstowe have the best possible care and are not marginalised in a post code lottery. The Mayor and other members of the Council represented Felixstowe at the face to face meetings with Professor Boyle. The Town Council emphasised above all the importance of providing facilities at Ipswich Hospital because of Felixstowe's geographical position and the congested road network that services the town. The Town Council is pleased that Professor Boyle has listened to Felixstowe's point of view and hopes that his new proposals will improve the situation. The Town Council will continue to monitor future outcomes closely.

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- **Lottery success for the Spa Gardens** – On 30th June, the day that Felixstowe in Flower 2009 was launched, we received the wonderful news that the Heritage Lottery Fund has made a grant of £152,300 towards the first phase of the regeneration of Felixstowe's Spa Gardens. The infrastructure of the gardens is in great need of refurbishment to provide a suitable setting for the future of the gardens. Felixstowe seafront gardens are part of our heritage and the plans for their future will build on the historic but include up to date and valuable facilities for the future. The Town Council congratulates everyone involved particularly at Suffolk Coastal District Council and the Landscape Partnership.
- **Martello Coastal Path** – The development of a Coastal Path from Felixstowe Ferry to Landguard is one of the projects for Felixstowe Futures. Existing paths and roads will provide walking and cycling routes between Felixstowe Ferry and Landguard. The Coastal Path, which will be known as the Martello Path because of the wealth of historic Martello Towers along the route, will eventually be marked by a series of permanent art works. A taste of the future of this path was provided during the Felixstroll weekend in early July.

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- **Landguard** – The future of the Landguard area is now assured because of funds provided by the Port of Felixstowe through the agreement for the development of the South area of the Port. The Port will be donating £50,000 a year for the next ten years to enable Landguard, which is one of the jewels in Felixstowe's crown to be sensitively managed. Landguard has a unique blend of nature, history and industry. It is a lovely place which provides Felixstowe residents and visitors with a choice of great recreational opportunities. The Landguard Partnership has now been formally established to include representatives from all the interests at Landguard and Esther Mander has been appointed as the Project Officer.
- **Shared Space – Hamilton Road and Bent Hill** – Work has started on part of the Bent Hill/Convalescent Hill improvement scheme. The recently built zebra crossing was the first stage of this. This scheme is part of a wider improvement involving two areas of the town, Hamilton Road and Bent Hill and involves a new concept called "Shared Space". The fundamental idea of "Shared Space" is that the traditional barriers used to separate motor vehicles and pedestrians are removed. The whole of the area is redesigned using high class materials and the result is an area that is safe for people to walk and shop, while still allowing vehicles to drive through. Funding for the scheme has received from both the Haven Gateway Partnership and the County Council. A consultation and exhibition about the scheme was held in early July and the results of the consultation will help to shape the scheme.
- **Art on the Prom - 10am – 4pm Sunday, 30th August 2009** – This year the popular Felixstowe event will have more artists than ever before displaying and selling their original art work along the prom. Children's work includes clay penguins and beach hut panels with face holes to pose behind. Have-a-go workshops in the Spa Gardens have new facilities for the disabled. Entertainment includes original live music, brass band and barrel organ.

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- **Evacuees from London** – September 2nd, 2009 will be the 70th anniversary of the arrival by sea of a large contingent of evacuee children from London and the suburbs in Felixstowe. Cliff Cocker, former Mayor of Woodbridge and former Chairman of Suffolk Coastal District Council, was one of those evacuees. He is very interested in the details of that time and would like any information you might have about the names of the children who were billeted in the homes of the kind people of Felixstowe and where they were billeted. If you have any information about this please contact us using the details in this newsletter and we will pass this on to Cliff Cocker.
- **Welcome to new Councillor** – 4th June was Super Thursday in Felixstowe. In addition to the County and European elections, there were by-elections for the Town and District Council in the South East Ward following the resignation of Henry Gorski. Jan Garfield was elected as a Town and District Councillor and we welcome her as a member of the Town Council. Jan's details are included in the list of Councillor's details in this newsletter. The results of the Town Council by-election were:

Janet Mary Garfield – Conservative
849
Margaret Anne Morris – Labour
196
Bernard James Price – Liberal Democrat
691
- **County Council elections** – As part of Super Thursday elections were held for Suffolk County Council. Nick Barber and Graham Newman were elected as County Councillors for Felixstowe's Coastal Division and John Goodwin was elected as County Councillor for Felixstowe's North and Trimley Division. We send our congratulations to all three Councillors. Their details are included on the list of Councillors in this newsletter.